

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Claims 3-57 are cancelled. Claims 1-2 and 58-66 remain in this application and, as amended herein, are submitted for the Examiner's reconsideration.

In the Office Action, claims 2, 58, and 63-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Claim 2 has been amended to more clearly show that the claims cover statutory subject matter. Applicant therefore submits that claims 2, 58, and 63-66 are in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Claims 1 and 59-62 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rovira (U.S. Patent No. 5,239,540) in view of Boden (U.S. Patent No. 5,633,686) in further view of Glaser (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006/027198), and claim 57 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features previously called for in allowable claim 57, and claim 57 is cancelled. Applicant therefore submits that claim 1 is in condition for allowance as are claims 59-62, which depend from claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 101 and 103(a).

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which the Examiner might have.

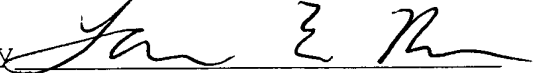
Application No.: 09/341,324

Docket No.: SONYSU 3.3-043

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: January 29, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Lawrence E. Russ

Registration No.: 35,342

LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,

KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP

600 South Avenue West

Westfield, New Jersey 07090

(908) 654-5000

Attorney for Applicant